



Newsletter 28 – Summer 2020

The European Honors Council (EHC) is happy to share its latest news on talent development in higher education, aiming to inspire you for the summer break and prepare for the fall semester. In this newsletter:

- Call for Creativity
- 'Honors in the Time of Corona' and other articles published in JEHC
- Honors International Faculty Learning Online
- New dates for Conference 'World of Talent'
- CoTalent e-library helps teachers foster talent

Call for Creativity

Honors education is maybe most effective when we have our students as close as possible: we celebrate community and like direct contact. In this Corona-time we might experience too much distance between students and ourselves. And at the same time: all of us will be creative to shorten this distance, to find ways of binding and bonding, and to (re)connect with our students. Online, in real life at a safe distance, and also: students among each other. So we wonder: *how are all our honors colleagues doing this?* What is your approach in getting into and keeping contact with students and still doing honors things? How do you stay connected?

That's why we launch this **Call for Creativity** in which we ask you to show us how you work in these circumstances through video.

We have created a European Honors Council YouTube account to gather the videos.

All info and the videos that are uploaded can be found through

www.honorscouncil.eu/creativity

'Honors in the Time of Corona' and other articles published in JEHC

How can you deal with the coronavirus crisis in honors education? Two brand new articles in the (open access) Journal of the European Honors Council discuss this issue and provide practical tips. They are part of the special issue 'Honors education in the digital age', which was briefly reopened for new contributions on the current crisis and is now published on-the-go. Three more articles are also ready. You can now enjoy the following articles:

- In the long note [Honors in the Time of Corona](#), John Zubizarreta (Columbia College, USA) has gathered a vast collection of international resources on four topics that affect honors in immediate ways: retooling faculty approaches to teaching; addressing student access and success; adapting capstone projects and presentations to online delivery and assessment; and adjusting grades. Lots of links included!
- How do you create an honors community online? This topic is addressed in [Creating community during the COVID-19 pandemic: Honors makes a case online](#), written by

Marca Wolfensberger and Marte Vroom. They report on an honors program in Utrecht University, the Netherlands.

- A very practical way to engage with a text in a group of honor students is described in [The digital common read: Creating a space for authentic engagement with social annotation](#) by Matthew Wranovix and Mary Isbell (University of New Haven, USA). Faculty and students choose a text in the public domain, place it on the web, and ask incoming first-year honors students to annotate the text collaboratively using Hypothesis.
- The core principles of engaged learning and individualization of the student experience can lead higher education to embrace the new culture of digital technology-assisted knowledge generation and transmission. This is the argument of Peter Bradley (Ferris State University, USA) in his note [Academic skills in the screenish era](#)
- How to raise honors and raise funds for honors, and make use of new techniques available in doing so? This topic is addressed in [\(Fund\)raising honors: Blending conventional and technological approaches to development](#) by Rebecca Bott-Knutson, Hanna Holmquist and Keith Mahlum, all connected to South Dakota State University (USA).

Stay tuned for more articles (including more on the coronavirus crisis) in the coming days and weeks. See all issues, sign up for alerts and find out how to contribute yourself at www.jehc.eu

Honors International Faculty Learning Online

How do you create online community and how do you teach to stimulate deep virtual learning? Two online events called Honors International Faculty Learning Online (HIFLO) were held in June to tackle these questions with an international group of (honors) educators. Hosted by the team that usually organizes the annual 'Honors International Faculty Institute', the online events provided engaging conversations, examples of effective virtual teaching and learning, shared resources and tools, and opportunities to exchange ways to enhance learning with "remote honors". Videos of both 1.5 hour sessions have now been posted on YouTube for all to see:

- Creating Online Community: Experiences from Honors- <https://youtu.be/ikpbSrVUZnA>
- Remote Honors: Teaching for Deep Virtual Learning - <https://youtu.be/MI40cuh-ZxM>

New dates for conference 'World of Talent'

The International Conference on Talent Development and Honours Education Featuring CoTalent, has found new dates and a new title. The conference, which was due to be held 10-12 June 2020 at Hanze University of Applied Sciences in Groningen (the Netherlands), was postponed due to the coronavirus crisis. It will now take place 16-18 June 2021 and will be named 'World of Talent 2021'. Please save these dates!

Information on a new website, as well as the registration and submission processes for this rescheduled conference, will follow in September. You will be updated in the next EHC newsletter.

CoTalent e-library helps teachers foster talent

In the CoTalent e-library, you can watch instructional and inspirational videos and read texts that help you develop talent in higher education. The e-learning environment for teachers is centered around the three 'pillars' of honors pedagogy: Creating community, Enhancing academic competence, and Offering freedom. The videos feature extra information and reflective questions. They were co-created by an international group of teachers and students in the project CoTalent and can be found on www.cotalent.eu.

On this website, the other products from the project are also available:

- The MeTalent Mirror three tools for teachers to self-evaluate their views towards talent development.
- The YouTalent Spotter: four tools to spot talented students that would most benefit from talent development programs.

The CoTalent team very much welcomes feedback and has created a short survey to fill in after use of the tools.

More info?

Please feel free to send this newsletter around to colleagues and friends, and invite them to also [join](http://www.honorscouncil.eu) the EHC. See www.honorscouncil.eu

Find the newsletter archive [here](#).

For membership questions: membership@honorscouncil.eu (Marleen Eyckmans)

All other questions: info@honorscouncil.eu (Maarten Hogenstijn - Secretary)

The next issue of this newsletter is scheduled for September 2020. If you have input for the next newsletter, please [send](#) it in by September 1st.

This newsletter was sent to you because you registered as a member of the European Honors Council. If you no longer want to receive these e-mails, please send a message to membership@honorscouncil.eu